

Message Text

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53

ACTION PA-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EA-11 L-03 EB-11 SCI-06 USIA-15

EPA-04 CEQ-02 TRSE-00 PRS-01 CU-04 DRC-01 /088 W

----- 119987

R 131042Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2581

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 5473

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, SCUL, NL

SUBJ: SPOKANE EXPO '74

REF: THE HAGUE 5183

1. MFA AND MIN HEALTH OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH EXPO HAVE GIVEN EMBOFF TWO DIVERGENT STORIES ON STATUS OF DUTCH CONSIDERATION, NEITHER OF WHICH IS PROMISING FOR PROSPECTS OF HOPED-FOR POSITIVE DECISION. MFA OFFICIAL SAID MINISTRIES STILL THRASHING ABOUT IN QUEST OF SUITABLE THEME WHICH CAN BE ADEQUATELY PRESENTED. ON OTHER HAND, MIN HEALTH OFFICIAL INDICATED THAT IN A RECENT MEETING BETWEEN REPS OF PHILIPS COMPANY AND GON OFFICIALS, PHILIPS APPEARED TO HAVE BACKED AWAY CONSIDERABLY FROM EARLIER INDICATIONS THAT IT MIGHT PROVIDE NECESSARY FINANCING FOR GON EXHIBIT.

2. MIN HEALTH OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF THAT IF RPT IF FINANCIAL ASPECTS CAN BE RESOLVED SOON, HE FORESEES NO PROBLEMS IN GON REACHING A FAVORABLE DECISION ON PARTICIPATION. MINISTRIES ALREADY HAVE ORGANIZATIONAL TALENT ON HAND WHICH THEY CAN READILY TAP IN EVENT OF POSITIVE DECISION, HE SAID. OUR MIN HEALTH SOURCE ALSO STATED THAT HE HAD REQUESTED (PRESUMABLY SUBORDINATES) THAT DUTCH INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS BE CONTACTED TO DETERMINE POSSIBLE INTEREST, BUT THAT HE HAD NOT YET HAD REPORT ON ANY CONTACTS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN MADE. HE IS, HOWEVER, NOT SANGUINE THAT, APART FROM PHILIPS, OTHER DUTCH INDUSTRIAL

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CONCERNS WOULD FIND PROPOSAL OF INTEREST TO THEM.

3. EMBASSY WILL BE CONTACTING PHILIPS OFFICIALS TO ASCERTAIN
REASONS FOR APPARENT UNWILLINGNESS NOW TO BACK UP WITH CASH
ENTHUSIASM WE FELT THEY HAD DISPLAYED EARLIER. NEEDLESS TO
SAY, IF PHILIPS DOESN'T BUY, THERE WILL BE NO SALE.
TANGUY

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NNN

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Disposition Event:
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